AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-41.   (Canceled)

42.   (Currently amended) A computer[[machine]]-implemented method for managing event-condition-action rules in a database system, the method comprising the computer-implemented steps performed by said database system of:

storing, in a database managed by said database system, rule data that defines a
   composite event comprised of two or more primitive events, at least one condition
   related to the composite event, and at least one action to be performed upon
   satisfaction of said at least one condition;

detecting a first database event as an occurrence of a first one of the primitive events;

determining whether the first database event satisfies a first sub-condition of said at least
   one condition, wherein said rule data indicates that satisfaction of said first sub-
   condition is not sufficient to satisfy said at least one condition;

persistently storing in the database results data that indicates that said first sub-condition
   was satisfied by said first database event;

detecting a second database event as an occurrence of a second one of the primitive
   events;

reading said results data from said database; and

determining whether the at least one condition is satisfied based on the results data read
   from the database and the second database event.

43.   (Previously presented) The method as recited in Claim 42, further comprising:

determining that the at least one condition is satisfied by determining that the second
   database event was detected within a particular time after detecting the first
   database event.

44.   (Previously presented) The method as recited in Claim 42, further comprising:

determining that the at least one condition is satisfied by determining that the second
   database event was not detected within a particular time after detecting the first
   database event.

45.   (Canceled)

46.   (Canceled)

47.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 42, further comprising:

deleting the persistently stored result from the database after a period of time indicated by

the at least one condition.

48.   (Previously presented) The method as recited in Claim 42, further comprising:

determining that the at least one condition is satisfied based on the results data read from

the database and the second database event; and

performing the at least one action.

49.   (Previously presented) The method as recited in Claim 42, wherein the composite event

comprised of two or more primitive events, the at least one condition related to the

composite event, and the at least one action are specified in an expression received by the

database system, the expression identifying two or more primitive event structures, a join

condition on the two or more primitive events, and the at least one action to perform in

response to satisfying the join condition.

50.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 49, where the expression is

specified using XML-extended SQL syntax.

51.   (Currently amended) A computer-readable volatile or non-volatile storage medium for

managing event-condition-action rules in a database system comprising one or more

sequences of instructions which, when executed by a processor of said database system,

cause the processor to perform:

storing, in a database managed by said database system, rule data that defines a

composite event comprised of two or more primitive events, at least one condition

related to the composite event, and at least one action to be performed upon

satisfaction of said at least one condition;

detecting a first database event as an occurrence of a first one of the primitive events;

determining whether the first database event satisfies a first sub-condition of said at least one condition, wherein said rule data indicates that satisfaction of said first sub-condition is not sufficient to satisfy said at least one condition;

persistently storing in the database results data that indicates that said first sub-condition was satisfied by said first database event;

detecting a second database event as an occurrence of a second one of the primitive events

reading said results data from said database; and

determining whether the at least one condition is satisfied based on the results data read from the database and the second database event.

52. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 51, further comprising instructions for:

determining that the at least one condition is satisfied by determining that the second database event was detected within a particular time after detecting the first database event.

53. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 51, further comprising instructions for:

determining that the at least one condition is satisfied by determining that the second database event was not detected within a particular time after detecting the first database event.

54. (Canceled)

55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 51, further comprising instructions for:

deleting the persistently stored result from the database after a period of time indicated by the at least one condition.

57. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 51, further comprising instructions for:

determining that the at least one condition is satisfied ~~by~~ based on the results data read from the database and the second database event; and

performing the at least one action.

58. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 51, wherein the composite event comprised of two or more primitive events, the at least one condition related to the composite event, and the at least one action are specified in an expression received by the database system, the expression identifying two or more primitive event structures, a join condition on the two or more primitive events, and the at least one action to perform in response to satisfying the join condition.

59. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 58, wherein the expression is specified using XML-extended SQL syntax.

60. (Currently amended) The <u>computer</u>[[machine]]-implemented method of Claim 42, wherein said first sub-condition is a condition on one or more attributes of said first one of the primitive events of which said first database event is an occurrence of.

61. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 51, wherein said first sub-condition is a condition on one or more attributes of said first one of the primitive events of which said first database event is an occurrence of.